

**Highlights In This Report**

**Livestock Slaughter**  
**Honey Production**  
**Prices Received By Farmers**  
**U. S. Farm Labor & Wage Rates**

**Louisiana Livestock Slaughter**

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during January totaled 1.5 million pounds, up 7 percent from December, and the previous year.

There were 1,700 head of **cattle** slaughtered during January, up 300 head from December, and 100 head above the previous year. Average live weight was 862 pounds, down 27 pounds from the previous month, but 21 pounds above January 2001. Total live weight at 1.44 million pounds was 19 percent above the previous month, and 6 percent above the previous year.

**Calves** slaughtered during January totaled 700 head, down 100 head from December, but unchanged from the previous year. Live weight averaged 517 pounds, up 22 pounds from December, but 1 pound below a year ago. Total live weight at 369 thousand pounds was down 1 percent from December, but 4 percent above the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during January totaled 2,300 head, down 800 head from December, and 300 head below January 2001. Average live weight was 215 pounds, up 38 pounds from December, but 4 pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 497 thousand pounds, down 10 percent from December, and 11 percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during January was 100 head, unchanged from December, and the previous year. Live weight averaged 89 pounds, up 5 pounds from the previous month, but 2 pounds below the previous year.

**United States Livestock Slaughter**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.08 billion pounds in January, up 4 percent from the 3.93 billion pounds produced in January 2001, and a new record high for January.

January 2001 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays. January 2002 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays.

**Comparing January 2002 with January 2002**

**Beef production**, at 2.33 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year, and a new record high for January. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.06 million head, up 2 percent from January 2001. The average live weight was up 34 pounds from the previous year, at 1,260 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 17 million pounds, 5 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 87,400 head, down 4 percent from January 2001. The average live weight was 1 pound below last year, at 321 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.72 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year, and a new record high for January. Hog kill totaled 8.66 million head, virtually unchanged from January 2001. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 268 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 18 million pounds, was down 7 percent from January 2001. Sheep slaughter totaled 254,900 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, down 3 pounds from January a year ago.



**Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat Production**

Item	Louisiana			United States	
	January	December	January	January	January
	2001	2001	2002	2001	2002
-----Number, thousand head-----					
Cattle	1.6	1.4	1.7	3,001.6	3,055.8
Calves	0.7	0.8	0.7	91.1	87.4
Hogs	2.6	3.1	2.3	8,643.2	8,657.8
Sheep & Lambs	0.1	0.1	0.1	268.5	254.9
-----Total live weight, thousand pounds-----					
Cattle	1,358	1,208	1,435	3,679,013	3,851,455
Calves	355	372	369	29,325	28,089
Hogs	560	555	497	2,286,307	2,317,054
Sheep & Lambs	13	10	12	38,386	35,642
-----Average live weight, pounds-----					
Cattle	841	889	862	1,226	1,260
Calves	518	495	517	322	321
Hogs	219	177	215	265	268
Sheep & Lambs	91	84	89	143	140
-----Million pounds-----					
Red meat	1.4	1.4	1.5	3,812.8	4,081.0

## Louisiana Honey Production

Honey production from producers with five or more hives in Louisiana during 2001 totaled 4.77 million pounds, up 18 percent from 2000. The number of colonies at 45,000 was up 2,000 from 2000. Honey stocks on December 15, 2001, amounted to 572,000 pounds, down 762,000 pounds from 2000.

The average price received for honey sold during 2001 was 60 cents per pound, up 8 cents from 2000. The value of the 2001 honey crop was 2.86 million dollars, up 36 percent from the previous year.

## United States Honey Production Down 16 Percent

Honey production in 2001 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 186 million pounds, down 16 percent from 2000. Honey production in 2001 was the lowest since 1989, when 181 million pounds was produced with a yield per colony of only 51.2 pounds. There were 2.51 million colonies producing honey in 2001, down 4 percent from 2000. Yield per colony averaged 74.0 pounds, down 10.1 pounds from the 84.1 pounds in 2000. Colonies which produced honey in more than one state were counted in each State, and yields per colony may therefore be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 64.8 million pounds on December 15, 2001, down 24 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

Prices for the 2001 crop average 66.9 cents per pound, up 12 percent from 59.7 cents in 2000. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives. State level honey prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, co-op and private channels. U.S. honey prices for each color class are derived by weighing quantities sold for each marketing channel at the U.S. level. Honey prices for 2001 were higher than the previous year for all marketing channels and all color classes except "All Other Honey, Area Specialties".

### Honey: Number of Colonies and Production 1/

Selected States	Number of Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	-----1,000 Colonies-----		-----Pounds-----		-----1,000 pounds-----	
Alabama	16	14	78	73	1,248	1,022
Arkansas	55	58	93	98	5,115	5,655
Georgia	55	55	57	57	3,135	3,135
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>4,042</b>	<b>4,770</b>
Mississippi	17	17	72	66	1,224	1,112
Texas	105	97	79	79	8,295	7,663
<b>United States</b>	<b>2,620</b>	<b>2,513</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>220,339</b>	<b>185,926</b>

### Honey: Stocks and Values 1/

Selected States	Stocks, December 15 2/		Average Price Per Pound 3/		Value of Production	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	-----1,000 Pounds-----		-----Cents-----		-----1,000 dollars-----	
Alabama	187	235	59	71	736	726
Arkansas	3,529	1,872	57	66	2,916	3,732
Georgia	376	188	63	70	1,975	2,195
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>1,334</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>2,102</b>	<b>2,862</b>
Mississippi	649	224	69	60	845	673
Texas	2,986	1,533	57	64	4,728	4,904
<b>United States</b>	<b>85,328</b>	<b>64,750</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>66.9</b>	<b>132,742</b>	<b>127,060</b>

1/For producers with 5 or more colonies. 2/Stocks held by producers. 3/Prices weighted by sales.

## Prices Received Index Up 4 Percent

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by farmers in February was 99, using a 1990-92=100 base period, up 4.2 percent from the January Index. Price increases for lettuce, cattle, broccoli, and potatoes more than offset decreased prices for broilers, tomatoes, peanuts and eggs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell affects the overall index. Higher marketings for milk, cattle, broilers, and hogs more than offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, tobacco, and wheat.

Compared with February 2001, the All Farm Products Index was down 1.0 percent. Lower prices for cattle, broilers, eggs, and onions more than offset higher prices for lettuce, broccoli, potatoes, and oranges.

## Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 122 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was unchanged from January, but 1.6 percent below February 2001. Lower prices in February for complete feeds, hay and forages, mixed fertilizers, and feed grains offset higher prices for potash and phosphate materials, feeder pigs, LP gas, and nitrogen fertilizers.

## Average Prices Received by Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	February	January	February	February	January	February
	2001	2002	2002 1/	2001	2002	2002 1/
	-----Dollars-----			-----Dollars-----		
Soybeans, per bushel	4.60	4.32	4.24	4.46	4.22	4.19
Rice, per cwt	5.96	4.28	4.31	5.72	3.94	4.13
Upland Cotton, per pound	.520	.282	2/ .276	.485	.289	2/ .297
Hay, all, baled, per ton	N/A	N/A	N/A	86.90	93.00	90.40
Beef Cattle, per cwt	55.50	50.90	53.50	74.70	67.10	70.40
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	86.00	79.60	83.00	78.70	71.20	74.10
Cows, per cwt	43.70	38.60	42.00	42.80	38.00	40.70
Calves, per cwt	102.00	97.10	98.10	109.00	102.00	104.00
Broilers, live, per pound	N/A	N/A	N/A	.370	.370	.340
Eggs All, per dozen	N/A	N/A	N/A	.682	.623	.559
Milk All, per cwt 3/	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.00	13.40	13.30

1/Mid-month; 2/Based on sales during the first half of the month; 3/Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. N/A = Not Available

## United States Farm Labor & Wage Rates

Items	Delta 1/			United States		
	January 2001	October 2001	January 2002	January 2001	October 2001	January 2002
	-----Thousand workers-----			-----Thousand workers-----		
<b>Hired Workers (All)</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>1,253</b>	<b>914</b>
<b>Ag Service Workers</b>	---	---	---	165	262	183
<b>Hired Workers</b>	17	43	24	691	991	731
150 Days or More	15	31	18	573	708	597
149 Days or Less	2	12	6	118	283	134
	-----Per week-----			-----Per week-----		
<b>Average Hours Worked</b>						
(Hired Farm Workers)	33.5	43.0	33.1	37.3	41.7	38.6
	-----Per hour-----			-----Per hour-----		
<b>Average Wage Rate</b>						
(Hired Farm Workers)	<b>\$7.73</b>	<b>\$7.13</b>	<b>\$7.95</b>	<b>\$8.66</b>	<b>\$8.59</b>	<b>\$8.96</b>
<b>By Type of Worker</b>						
Field	\$7.56	\$6.83	\$7.90	\$7.76	\$8.01	\$8.25
Livestock	\$6.62	\$7.37	\$7.21	\$8.07	\$8.39	\$8.25

1/Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. ---Data Not Published.

### United States Farm Labor

There were 914,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of January 6-12, 2002, up 7 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 731,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 183,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 7.6 percent of the January hired workforce compared with 9.6 percent last year.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$8.96 per hour during the January 2002 survey week, up 30 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.25 per hour, up 49 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$8.25 per hour compared with \$8.07 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate at \$8.25 was up 38 cents from last year.

The Louisiana Farm Reporter (ISSN-0056-7670) is published semi-monthly (Twice a month) by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service, 5825 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70806. Subscription is free to respondents and cooperators, \$10.00 Annually to all others, and is available from the above address. Periodicals postage is paid in Baton Rouge, LA and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send changes of address to Louisiana Farm Reporter, P. O. Box 65038, Baton Rouge, LA 70896-5038.

#### Internet Access:

**\*For free automatic e-mail subscriptions to this publication go to  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/sub-form.htm> or visit our homepage at  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/la/>**

LOUISIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
 (225) 922-1362  
 5825 FLORIDA BLVD., P. O. BOX 65038  
 BATON ROUGE, LA 70896-5038

PERIODICALS POSTAGE  
 IS PAID AT  
 JACKSON, MS 39204